How Chief Wilkle's Men Go About Their Work and Why the Path of the Counterfeiter is a Hard Road to Travel—New Devices in Making Money Have Made Counterfeiters Work Unprofitable.

Correspondence of The Observer. Washington, D. C., Feb. 23-The path of the couterfeiter is hard. His game may be fascinating while his shrewd and daring operations go on undetect-ed, but the hand of retributive justice deals to him an awful fate when the searchlight of the Secret Service is thrown upon his treacherous methods. persistent operations of this par-Mcular class of criminals is chiefly responsible for making the United States Secret Service one of the most uniquely devised systems in the world. So thoroughly equipped had it become and so extensive in its scope, it stands alone as a model for systematic methods and effectiveness.

Comparatively few persons recognize the great value of the Secret Service system as it is now organized and operated. It is one of the vital cors in the government machinery. Counterfeiting is an interesting branch of criminology, and from its quarry some of the most eleverly conceived dastardly plots in history have been unearthed. They are brought to light by the alert and keen eved detective whose heroic work is seldom knowe outside the inner councils of the Sec-

The Secret Service is red an old when compared to the existence of other bureaus. Its growing importance, however, is shown recognition each recurring year, when Congress votes it liberal appropriations, The appropriations made for the maintenance of this bureau are made osfrom bases by counthe Government terfeiting. This however, could not be said to have been the original purpose of its organization. Counterfelling money is an old offense, but does not even seem to have become so widespread until after the civil war, when the Government hegan issuing paper money. States and municipalilies prior to that time had deaft with the offense under local statues, and not until 1860, when the crune war varily widening in its dangerous proportions, did a bill appropriating \$10.-50 for its suppression pass both houses of Congress. This sum was expended under the direction of the Secretary of the Treasury, who paid the out in private rewards to private detectives, municipal officers and others instrumental in the capture and praishment of bogus money-makers ongress appropriated \$100,000 in 1864 for manugrating a methodical system for ranging down inveterate counterfelters. Upon the Sec. of the Treasury was placed the supervision of this work. When John Sherman came into office as the Secretary of the Treasury he favored the organization of a sepgrate bureau for checking the output of spurious currency OPERATES ON THE QUIET.

er given publicity, excepting it be a gitton.

organizer thorough discplinarian. him. Chief Wilkie has managed the now in the Federal prisons, Wilkle has an able assistant in Me. W. H. Moran, who has been in the service for many years, and to whom is referred all money about which genuineness

The United States is divided into thirty Secret Service districts. Each one of these districts is in charge of an operative who is given as many assistants as the sorther demands When counterfeiting operations are in progress and the activities of the sitvation demand an entarged force, re-quirition is made for additional deterrives from various districts, and they are restered in the field over which hongs suspection. The operative in each district sends to the bureau In Washington a report covering op-erations for every 21 hours

TALES OF INTRIGITY. etories which are fascinaling in the cor-extreme are woven into the o reports. T

sents to the eye an interesting scene Hanging on the walls are the photoing case. Among these thousands of pictures are the faces of some of the

is the grim drawn countenances of can assert 60,000 a day, and in the act William E. Brockaway, the veter in of counting them thousands of bad dean of all counterfelters, who was ones are thrown out daily.

101. PITS HIM OUT OF BUSINESS.

The development of modern processentence; Emanuel Ninger, the noted penman, who could lithograph a bank note almost beyond the detection or an expert, and Taylor and Predell, who, next to Brockaway, hold the cleverest counterfeiting record in the country's history. The wall and racks are filled with hundreds of others who have at some time gentler. have at some time gotten into the clutches of the law. Among them are found many desperate characters some who have taken human life with the same case they would employ in mak-ing a paper bill or a silver coin.

NOTED COUNTERFEITERS. One of the most noted cases of counstrict less feiting that ever occured in this is expected. For a long period the two men uncreded in counterfeiting revenue assigned. William Kendig was a prosecute to bacco manufacturer in Language. Pa, and in the same town was fillian Jacobs, both men highly respected for their business ability and inglon

Both realized standing as citizens. Both realized that a fortune could be realized in counterfeiting internal revenue stamps They employed Predell and Taylor, of Philadelphia, two young engravers to do their work. The counterfeits issued from their establishment were so perfect that the ordinary business man was unable to detect its spurious qualities and for a long time the scheme was carried on with puzzling audacity, baffling the officials of the internal revenue service. It is stated that these criminals realized over \$200, 000 through their methods before being detected. Seeing their success in this undertaking they at once com- eral that the government will build up menced the counterfeiting of green- a great criminal bureau, one that will backs. The bills were issued in large supply officers for the investigation of denominations and the gang engaged any crime. W. J. SHOWALTER, in the onterprise were formerly men of unquestionable integrity in their com-The secret service placed deectives on the trail. They followed the scent and discovered their men working out their dastardly schemes just in the niche of time, for had it continued longer the country have been flooded with millions of dollars of counterfelt money. The story of the detection and the capture of these noted criminals is an interesting

During the latter part of 1898 there appeared in circulation a \$100 certifiate and also a \$50 certificate. These bills had passed through banks in Philadelphia and were not detected unill they reached the Treasury Department in Washington. Then the sec-ret service got in its work. It secured list of engravers in every city in the country and made an investigation as to what each one was doing. The investigation revealed the fact that habits of Predell and Taylor had suddealy changed and they were at once in possession of plenty of money, the

source of their wealth remaining for awhile a matter of conjecture. For detectives and secret service sleuths was of no avail. One day, however, Taylor and Predell took a train for laneaster. The sleuths were quickly on the trail. They followed the men to Jacobs' house where a conference was held. The visit of the two men Jacobs' residence proved somewhat of a puzzle, as Jacobs had always borne the reputation of an honorable and highly respected citizen. Jacobs was a respected business man in the community, but the sleuths asked themselves what was he doing confering with these two young fellows, about whose conduct there hung an overshadowing suspicion.

Chief Wlikie got in some brilliant work at this juncture. He had a friend in Chicago, a wholesale tobaco dealer. He wrote this friend asking that several different brands of cigars be sent him immediately. The Chief learned that these brands were the product of Jacobs. Upon the arrival of the cigars from Chicago an bast. examination revealed the startling fact that the stamps upon the boxes were spurious. The first clue to the criminals was then made plain and very soon the conspirators were failed. When sentence was passed on Jacobs his only comment was: "It was ten inillions or ten years, and we took

The general public never becomes All the men associated with Jacobs aware of the personnel and method of are serving out their time in different operations of the Secret Service, and eastern prisons, including a United all information of such a character States attorney who tried to bribe a is carefully withheid, and if given out Secret Service operative to let the at all, is censored with the greatest prisoners go. In the case referred degree of scrutiny. The different Sec- to, the Secret Service man's fearlessgree of scrutiny. The different Sec. to, the Secret Service man's fearless-Service districts throughout the ness and honesty of purpose was United States and the men at their rewarded by the Chief Executive later head is a profund secret and is nev- by being appointed to high official po-

case of arrest of some during counter. Not only are revenue stamps coun-felter coming under the eyes of a terfelted, but the postage stamps to Not only are revenue stamps counkeen-witted reporter in which event the amount of several thousands of the matter is published in the news- dollars have been engraved and sold An interesting person is at the head quickly detected and gathered in by of the Secret Service in this country, the quick witted sleuths of the bu-He is John E. Wilkie. He is not only read. The records of the bureau will the born detective that he looks, but show, it is stated the names of sons at of the best and most aristocratic fam-His memory liles in the country who at some time of men and events of the least im-portance is most remarkable. Once he, fell into the direful ditch of humiliasees or meets a man, he never forgets tion and disgrace and are serving time

Secret Service since 1838, when he was Interesting is the revention made appointed by President McKinley to that a great majority of the countersucceed Chief Hazen. He began his felters arrested in this country prove career on one of the large Chicago to be foreigners. Germans, French-dailies as police court reporter. The men Austrians, Italians, and, in fact, field was ideal for a thorough study representatives of every nationality on of human nature and its onesidedness the globe are included in the list. It and John E. Wilkie was the man to its said of the Italians that they make grasp the opportunity. He has a wonderful nose for criminal investigation, and in the detection of counterfeit In this the unsuspecting victim dismoney is regarded as one of the hest covers his loss too late. The average money is regarded as one of the best covers his loss too late. The average experts in the United States Mr. Italian makes a desperate fight when arrested, and will use the dagger or sillerto readily.

HEATHEN CHINEE" BUSY. is referred all money thout which. The seemingly dull and listless there is the slightest doubt of its "Heathen Chines" is said to be one of the cleverest artisans in the work converting Mexican silver dollars. worth 48 cents, into a good dollar of our money. This appears to have been profitable, as large sums of coun terfelt of excellent quality have been brought into the United States from the Philippines and dumped off in Cali-

Another very clever deception in counterfeiting is "raised bills." The work connected with the making of raised bills is very skillful and devoices many close and discriminating observers. In some instances the bill is split in half and in no way aftered. and in others very adroitly Tales of intrigue and esponage, and from \$1 of 10 and successfully handed

The statement has been made that These reports are handled with the at one time and another counterfeitgreatest care by the last a magen dollars and half-dollars have been theres in the office of the Borom in the foraght into the United States in the Treasury Department. The Boy- steat quantities. In some cases the the Treasury Department. The Ber-great quantities. In some cases the tillon system of measurements is in counterfeit of this Mexican money is vogue as well as the card system. The not detected until it reaches the Treasure. two are absolutely correct and one surv Department and comes before the curate in every detail. So complete eyes of the expert. Counterfelt hills are they that without the name of of all denominations \$5, \$10 and \$20 the criminal his name and record can the most perfect specimens ever seen be obtained if the measurements are by the Government, have passed through the national banks all over A visit to the apartments are upper the country, its spurious quality es-by Chief Wilkie and his assistants pre-vaping the notice of the cashiers and presidents, and are undetected until they reach the experienced eye of the graphs of every known counterfeiter women detectives to the Treasury De-in this country classified in a revolv-

More than a million 1-cent pleces ever known, who were finally captured are employed in New York, as well and brought to the bar of justice as the other subtreasures, whose sole through the aid of the secret veryice, duty it is to count and ascert manufactures.

> The development of modern processes of photo-lithography, photo-gravure revolutionized and etching has note counterfelling industry, and darling machinations of the counterfelter and his confederates of a few years ago, has now been reduced a minimum. Secret Service officials admit that these modern processes will ultimately become so perfect that the crime of counterfelling in any form will be well nigh impracticable. The operations of the Secret Service men are confined by law to the suppression counterfeiting and the investigation of back pay and bounty cases. By strict letter of the law this is all that is expected of the Secret Service. That the law may not openly be violated, however, the Secret Service operators assigned to do other work are practi-

cally taken off the Secret Service rolls, and the department employing them is

required to pay their salary and ex-penses. All the departments at Wash-ington now recognize the special fit-

ness and exceptional skill of the Se-cret Service detective and follow the custom of making requisition upon the bureau when they are wanted.

The Department of Justice has used a great number of the operators in the last few years in tracing down different kinds of conspiracies. The Posoffice Department now has its own system of inspectors who investigate the violations of the postal laws. The plan of pitting specialist against specialist or "Greek against Greek" is an admirable one and in the course of time, it is predicted by the government officials, this will become so general that the government will build up

#### OBSERVATIONS.

Written for The Observer. All millionaires haven't got the indigestion, popular belief to the con-

The suspicious man, unless that's his business, should himself be suspicloned. News at second hand should be taken

hand with a spoonful. It's queer how the "hayseed" sup-ports the ponderous earth. If a man is slow a girl will soon find

it out. It must be force of habit that makes woman kiss her deadliest foe. People are by their affections as they are by other valuables; they don't like to let them out unless they are

returned. Some enterprising printer ought to invent a period and comma that could be written.

Love is not always found in the vine covered cottage.
It's funny that when a man wants to get up in the world he has to dig Some people rise early in the morning the second day in boasting of it.

apt to have something taught him. Where one person finds a dollar another is sure to look in the same place for more. Laziness is sometimes taken for that

rare virtue-patience. At any rate the more irons a man has in the fire the less is he liable Samehow or other the most of the

jokesmiths manage to get blood out of turnip that he's afraid of anything when he is in the presence of his best girl. The man who despises the sight of

its owner and put to some use. An immature mind is fond of bom-

The man who rests on his hands three times. will find it comfortable sleeping. The reason that we confine a man with wheels in his head in the asylum apart; is probably because we don't want

him to roll around too much. Most of us who are tellously carement sometimes, The man who is patient with a mule

ought to make a model husband. The consequence would be amusing, a say the least, if we all went early a avoid the rush want good roads, and some ever.
There wouldn't be so much kicking posed dogs and preferred sheep. igainst certain church singers if they

would carry the same tune that the holr is trying to sing. A man ought to be sure that he's not alking to himself when he feels called o perform a piece of work.

When a man climbs on the "water wagon" he will usually find himself but said that with an average of ten among decent passengers. sound asleep.

the pipe and mug is not of a sound 1 .. 15.

### MY WIFE.

Trusty, dusky, vivil, true, With oyes of gold and bramble dew, Steel true and blue straight. The great Artifleer Made my fate.

Honor, anger, valor, fire: A love that life could never tire, Death quench, or evil stir. The neighty Master Gave to her.

Teacher, tender, comrade, wife, A fellow-farer true through life, Heart-whole and soul-free, The august Father ROBERT LOUIS STEVENSON.

AFRAID OF STRONG MEDICINES. Many people suffer for years from rheu-matic pains, and prefer to do so rather than take the strong medicines usually given for rheumatism, not knowing that quick relief from pain may be had simply by applying Chamberloin's Pain Balm and without taking any medicine in-ternally. For sale by R. H. Jordan & Co.

To the Editor of The Observer: It still seems that one woe treadeth

upon the heels of another. Bad colds and quitting tobacco are hardships in their way, but another Richmond is in the field, whose march is as irrestible as the steady tramp of the potato bug. This is seven-year itch. It has chased an evergreen Sunday school into winter quarters and demoralized two public schools. The Sunday school has flourished like the green bay tree, and juveniles were regaled with stories of Jonah, Daniel, David, Solomon and other ancient worthles. But one holy Sabbath day the ancient superintendent struck a sorrowful attitude, and a gloom setwith a grain of sait and at third tled over the plous audience. While tears chased themselves down his Roman nose, he declared that the Sunday school, which had been the apple of his eye and the joy of his heart, must go out of business.

The fact is, brethering," he declar-"me an' all my folks is got the on the,

each. "Like the wind that bloweth whar it listeth, we can't tell whence it cometh nor whither it goeth. An', brethering, the more you try to doctor it the wuss it gits. We've tried brimstone, hoglard, red percipitate, but each holds the fort. I went to a new-fangled doctor, an' he charged me two dollars for telling me I needed soap wuss than anything else. Brethering, you all know me to be a man of regular habits. Four times every summer I go in a case in point. Every sky-pilot that swimmin', an' if that ain't tryin' to wore a short coat and a high hat, Uncle Peter don't know what is, I'd

like to hear from others." Here a red-eyed, tallow-faced, exblockader, who had been "called" exhort, rose, blew his nose, wiped it on his coat-sleeve, and also struck an attitude. He said that "each" was a taxation. No matter how good the rejudgment the Lord sent upon the disobedient children of men on account of being puffed-up, unseemly. Hereupon Uncle Peter rose with flashing eyes, and his iron-gray mane standing up like the fretful quills of the Scripture. porcupine. He declared that he was 62 years old, had fit into the war, and never had itch before. That If it was a judgbent the red-nosed, red-eyed, a police uniform should have one con-tallow-faced body-snatcher, who had just occupied the floor, was a living A glib tongue ought to be harnessed and peripatetic witness, for he had proven his being 21 years of age, the first vote he cast, by proving he had been a victim of "seven-year-each,"

This brought on hostilities, strong men held the two combatants while the women and children hurried home.

The next day the bearded and longgreen tobacco-chewing school commitful are apt to relax at the wrong mo- tee called on the young school marm. She was informed that "each" had laid its blighting touch on their commu-nity, and school must be suspended. That "book learning" was a small matter, anyway, as it caused people to want good roads, and some even ap-

That they had decided, by a rising vote, that dogs, bad roads and ignorance were better than itch, sheep, good roads and education. The teacher argued that a certain amount of scratching was promotive of health and The committee admitted this, dogs to the family the fleas would A person is never so happy as when furnish all the scratching necessary. committee had their own way, The contentment that comes with and the school was closed, indefinitely.

On the line of schools, it becomes more and more evident that education and He may change your fears to diadems, religion are two things not regulated Open the door! by supply and demand. The less of either people have, the less they want. Ten years ago the school lasted three months. All the ancient wiseacres de- They clared that was chough, as it was all they could spare their "chaps." Now the schools last four months.

and the same gang thinks they could not send another day. Durham, Wake, etc., they have from seven to nine months, do better farming, pay teachers better salaries, and more general prosperity prevails, Also. that the roads are better and people are proud of and perfectly are proud of and perfectly gress and civilization. In Cleveland, Rutherford, and other backwoods with the control of the c counties, it is up to school teachers to writes: "I burnt my knee dreadfully; agitate measures till something is that it blistered all over. Bucklen's done. Of course some improvement has been made, and for it the school teacher is to be thanked. However, the cussed demagogues assume all the

WOES OF CORN CRACKER

ONE TREADS ON OTHER'S HEELS

The Seven-Year Itch Demovalizes a Sabbath and Two Public Schools—Committee Favors Degs, Bad Roads and Ignorance in Preference—Education and Religion Two Things Not Regulated by the Law of Supply and Demand.

To the Editor of The Observer:

credit. That doesn't matter, though, of we get results. Some of us remember when a man who has the sand to say that schools should be longer, that a rax should be voted, and teachers paid living remunedation; was regarded as a crank and a busybody—especially if he let the water in on some snivelling sky-pilot. But some of the same hot and cold blowing "statesmen" now see that the teacher is a hard-worked, poorly-paid mortal, "and schools should be longer. In ten more years, the same gang are

ten more years, the same gang are liable to take a stand for good roads. By that time all the counties near us will have them, and these d-d demagogues will jump and pose as pioneers.

At present the roads in Cleveland county, generally speaking, are well night impassible. But all the selfish cusses who inherited the land on either side of them, raise a row if anybody suggests putting a road in the right Because they lacked energy to leave here, these back number hill-billies have stayed where they were born till progressive men made ad-vances on educational, agricultural and other progressive lines; till their land has been enhanced in value. They have been "agin" every improve-ment, but when an improvement was potent to all and here to stay, they have unblushingly swore they were originators and promoters. Then the

peanut politician has been a harper on the, "me too," string. Now the same class of men who boldly blazed the way for every im-provement ever made, want the roads built and graded in the proper place. barnacle-like foe of progress is vile peanut politician is likewise "agin" it, till the "people get ready for it." It will be remembered every man who ever had a good idea Brethering, you all was given to waiting till he was the pet of the groundlings. Columbus was cleanliness and godliness, your said the world was flat and stationary. The inventor of the steam engine, the steam boat, the McCormick and abbut everything else worth hav-

to ing, were opposed by the riff-raff. To curry favor with the reuben and the hill-billie, a man must be turn nor how beneficient the measure. he must be like Dr. McIver's man by the show man's snake. The old fellow killed every snake he saw, and regarded the same as an injunction of

On seeing the pet anaconda, he got a pole and laid him out. The showman said: "Why did you

kill my snake? He cost me \$1,000. "It don't matter if he cost \$10,000," said Uncle Rube. "I kills 'em wherever l finds 'em, be G-

Some very learned men are fighting good roads, on the ground that it has been a failure in Mecklenburg. Everybody that has brains enough to grease a gimlet knows that Mecklenburg is proud of her good roads, and prouder of the way she obtained them. Let all opponents of good roads take notice that we are in for four years as during the war, till we get good CORN CRACKER.

It is somewhat consoling to remember that the earthly tax dodger may find it difficult to prove his title to a mangion Don't forget that a flatterer always has

#### OPEN THE DOOR.

British Weekly.

Open the door, let in the air; The winds are sweet and the flowers are fair,

Joy is abroad in the world to-day; if our door is widd it may come this way, Open the door!

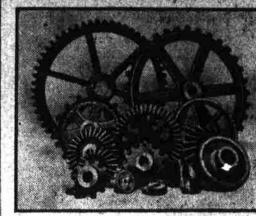
Open the door, let in the sun; He hath a smile for every one; He hath made of the raindrops gold and gems

Open the door of the soul; let in Strong pure thoughts which will banish will grow and bloom with grace their fruit shall be sweeter than that of the vine. Open the door!

Statistics, however, prove that in progressive counties like Mecklenburg. Durham, Wake, etc., they have from seven to nine months of the have from fair That angels may enter unaware, Open the door!

Agonizing Burns "I burnt my knee dreadfully;

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completed and position is secured, or hand, we will give scholarships free give notes and pay out of salary. In thoroughness and reputation D. P. B. ness Spelling. Business Letter Writ-C. is to other business colleges what ing. Punctuation, etc., the literary Harvard and Yale are to academies. branches that will earn for you



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